

We claim:

1. An aneurysm buttressing arrangement for covering an aneurysm opening in an intracranial aneurysm, for temporary placement thereadjacent, to prevent escape of embolitic agents from that aneurysm, said arrangement comprising:

an elongated delivery wire having a proximal end and a tracking distal end wire;

a scaffold of expandable wires arranged proximal to and in spaced adjacent relationship to said distal end of said delivery wire, wherein said scaffold of wires has a tapered proximal end and a tapered distalmost end, said scaffold being expandable upon deployment from a delivery catheter, and collapsible for withdrawal into a delivery catheter;

said tracking distal extending distally from said scaffold one to three centimeters.

2. The aneurysm buttressing arrangement as recited in claim 1, wherein said elongated delivery wire is hollow.
3. The aneurysm buttressing arrangement as recited in claim 1, wherein said scaffold is comprised of a collection of circumferentially spaced helically directed wires.

4. The aneurysm buttressing arrangement as recited in claim 3, wherein said circumferentially spaced helically directed wires have at least two layers thereof.
5. The aneurysm buttressing arrangement as recited in claim 1, wherein said scaffold is comprised of a braided array of wires.
6. The aneurysm buttressing arrangement as recited in claim 1, wherein said expandable wires define open cells therebetween, for blood flow therethrough and sized to prevent herniation of embolitic agents from said aneurysm.
7. The aneurysm buttressing arrangement as recited in claim 3, wherein said scaffold is detachable from said elongated wire.
8. The aneurysm buttressing arrangement as recited in claim 2, wherein said elongated hollow delivery wire has a control wire extending therethrough, said control wire extending up through and fixedly attached to said distal end of said scaffold.
9. The aneurysm buttressing arrangement as recited in claim 8, wherein said control wire has a distal most end which comprises said tracking distal end wire.
10. The aneurysm buttressing arrangement as recited in claim 1, wherein said scaffold has a film disposed therearound.

11. The aneurysm buttressing arrangement as recited in claim 2, wherein an inflatable and deflatable elongated balloon is arranged within said scaffold.
12. The aneurysm buttressing arrangement as recited in claim 11, wherein said balloon is pressurized and depressurized by a fluid transmitted through said hollow delivery wire to said balloon.
13. The aneurysm buttressing arrangement as recited in claim 12, wherein said fluid is a liquid medicament.
14. The aneurysm buttressing arrangement as recited in claim 10, wherein said film is foraminous.
15. A method of buttressing an intracranial aneurysm in a vessel wall, comprising the steps of:
  - transluminally positioning a scaffold of wires out of a delivery catheter, said scaffold having a proximal end and a distal end arranged onto a near distal of a delivery wire across the opening of an aneurysm;
  - expanding said scaffold from a first contracted diameter to a second diameter to engage said vessel wall by a spacing open of helically wound wire comprising said scaffold;

introducing an embolitic agent into said aneurysm through a cell between adjacent wires comprising said scaffold;

permitting blood to flow through said cells of said scaffold subsequent to said introduction of said embolitic agent into said aneurysm; and

withdrawing said scaffold from its position adjacent said aneurysm.

16. The method as recited in claim 15, comprising the step of:

placing a thin film about said scaffold prior to positioning of said scaffold adjacent said aneurysm to facilitate buttressing thereof.

17. The method as recited in claim 15, comprising the step of:

inserting a balloon within said scaffold prior to positioning of said scaffold adjacent said aneurysm to facilitate expansion of said scaffold.

18. The method as recited in claim 15, comprising the step of:

arranging said delivery wire to have a central lumen therethrough for transmission to said aneurysm to permit delivery of a further microcatheter or a medicament.

19. The method as recited in claim 18, comprising the step of:  
  
placing a control wire through said lumen in said delivery wire.
20. The method as recited in claim 19, comprising the step of:  
  
extending said control wire through said scaffold to a distalmost end thereof; and  
  
attaching said control wire to said distalmost end of said scaffold.
21. The method as recited in claim 20, comprising the step of:  
  
extending said control wire distally of said scaffold so as to function as a distal tracking wire.
22. The method as recited in claim 20, comprising the step of:  
  
moving said control wire with respect to said delivery wire/pushwire so as to permit the variance the size or shape of said scaffold.
23. The method as recited in claim 15, comprising the step of:  
  
tapering said distal and proximal ends of said scaffold to facilitate sliding of said scaffold out of and back into said delivery catheter.